UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/45/169
12 March 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 12

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/838)]

45/169. International co-operation in solving international problems of a social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/155 of 4 December 1986 and 43/155 of 8 December 1988, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1987/42 of 10 March 1987 1/ and 1989/49 of 7 March 1989, 2/

Conscious that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 5 and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ Ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

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Considering that special emphasis should be put on the effective implementation of the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 3/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 4/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 4/ and other relevant international instruments,

Convinced that the effectiveness of United Nations human rights instruments would be enhanced by universal adherence to them as well as by strict compliance of States parties with their obligations,

Considering that existing regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights make a major contribution to the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that the exchange of information and experience in this field, as well as the teaching of human rights, could be further improved,

Emphasizing the necessity for the international community to continue its efforts to take practical measures to prevent mass and flagrant violations and all other violations of human rights, including all forms of discrimination based on distinctions of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, which continue to take place in many parts of the world, contrary to the provisions of international instruments in the field of human rights,

Noting the importance that the promotion and protection of human rights have secured on the international agenda and in relations between States,

1. Calls upon Member States to implement fully the universally recognized international standards for the promotion and protection of human rights enshrined, in particular, in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other relevant international instruments;

2. Urges all States to co-operate fully with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums dealing with the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world;

3. Considers that such co-operation will make an effective and practical contribution to the implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

4. Expresses its conviction that the promotion of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the implementation of universally recognized human rights standards, are particularly important for all countries;

3/ Resolution 217 A (III).

4/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

5. Urges Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the various international instruments in the field of human rights;

6. Recognizes the value of common efforts by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations at international, regional, bilateral and national levels in the field of human rights;

7. Considers that the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights would contribute to the promotion and improvement of understanding of human rights;

8. Emphasizes that the wide dissemination of information on human rights and the teaching of human rights are important tasks and would contribute to the implementation of universally recognized international human rights standards;

9. Decides to continue the consideration of this question at its forty-seventh session under the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990